

REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN,

AND

Superintending School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF ATKINSON, N. H.,

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1863.

HAVERHILL:

FROM THE "ESSEX BANNER" JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

1863.

REPORT

RECEIPTS

SPECIAL

1901	100.00	100.00
1902	100.00	100.00
1903	100.00	100.00
1904	100.00	100.00
1905	100.00	100.00
1906	100.00	100.00
1907	100.00	100.00
1908	100.00	100.00
1909	100.00	100.00
1910	100.00	100.00
1911	100.00	100.00
1912	100.00	100.00
1913	100.00	100.00
1914	100.00	100.00
1915	100.00	100.00
1916	100.00	100.00
1917	100.00	100.00
1918	100.00	100.00
1919	100.00	100.00
1920	100.00	100.00
1921	100.00	100.00
1922	100.00	100.00
1923	100.00	100.00
1924	100.00	100.00
1925	100.00	100.00
1926	100.00	100.00
1927	100.00	100.00
1928	100.00	100.00
1929	100.00	100.00
1930	100.00	100.00
1931	100.00	100.00
1932	100.00	100.00
1933	100.00	100.00
1934	100.00	100.00
1935	100.00	100.00
1936	100.00	100.00
1937	100.00	100.00
1938	100.00	100.00
1939	100.00	100.00
1940	100.00	100.00
1941	100.00	100.00
1942	100.00	100.00
1943	100.00	100.00
1944	100.00	100.00
1945	100.00	100.00
1946	100.00	100.00
1947	100.00	100.00
1948	100.00	100.00
1949	100.00	100.00
1950	100.00	100.00
1951	100.00	100.00
1952	100.00	100.00
1953	100.00	100.00
1954	100.00	100.00
1955	100.00	100.00
1956	100.00	100.00
1957	100.00	100.00
1958	100.00	100.00
1959	100.00	100.00
1960	100.00	100.00
1961	100.00	100.00
1962	100.00	100.00
1963	100.00	100.00
1964	100.00	100.00
1965	100.00	100.00
1966	100.00	100.00
1967	100.00	100.00
1968	100.00	100.00
1969	100.00	100.00
1970	100.00	100.00
1971	100.00	100.00
1972	100.00	100.00
1973	100.00	100.00
1974	100.00	100.00
1975	100.00	100.00
1976	100.00	100.00
1977	100.00	100.00
1978	100.00	100.00
1979	100.00	100.00
1980	100.00	100.00
1981	100.00	100.00
1982	100.00	100.00
1983	100.00	100.00
1984	100.00	100.00
1985	100.00	100.00
1986	100.00	100.00
1987	100.00	100.00
1988	100.00	100.00
1989	100.00	100.00
1990	100.00	100.00
1991	100.00	100.00
1992	100.00	100.00
1993	100.00	100.00
1994	100.00	100.00
1995	100.00	100.00
1996	100.00	100.00
1997	100.00	100.00
1998	100.00	100.00
1999	100.00	100.00
2000	100.00	100.00

RECEIPTS.

Assessed State, County, Town and School tax,	\$1491 55
“ Non-resident highway tax,	104 88
Received from the state on account of volunteers,	235 56
“ literary fund,	33 48
“ railroad dividend,	55 80
“ from the county of Rockingham,	40 00
Balance due in hands of Treasurer, 1859,	6 09
“ “ “ 1860,	17 00
“ “ “ 1861,	175 36
Received for labor of Enoch Noyes,	2 33
By note to Enoch Bassett,	100 00
“ John H. Smith,	300 00
“ Jesse Page,	1200 00
“ Byron Noyes,	200 00
“ William Brickett,	400 00
“ Joseph Noyes,	300 00
“ Edwin L. Greenough,	100 00
	<hr/> \$4762 05

EXPENDITURES.

To State treasurer,	150 40
County “	309 62
School tax,	409 48
G. W. Conley's school tax,	1 34
	<hr/> \$870 84
Families of volunteers,	\$337 32

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

PAUPERS.

To support of Betsy Pevere,	\$161 51	
" Enoch Noyes,	59 47	
" transient poor,	1 00	
" J. P. Nichols and family,	46 03	
	<hr/>	\$268 01
Bounties paid volunteers,		\$2250 00

SUNDRIES.

To E. H. Safford, printing reports, March, 1862,	\$10 00	
Isaac B. Hovey, wood,	1 25	
B. H. Steele, repairing hearse,	7 48	
" painting guide-boards,	19 47	
William H. Dow, ringing bell,	20 00	
Samuel L. Knight, expense to Exeter, and advice,	3 00	
" " in Nichols case,	8 00	
J. W. Spaulding, books furnished Nichols children,	1 02	
William H. Fiske, stationery,	2 30	
E. N. Greenough, blank books and stationery,	5 38	
D. D. & A. W. Chase, lumber,	61	
	<hr/>	\$78 51

SNOW BILLS FOR 1862.

To John K. Mason,	6 90	
James H. Noyes,	8 45	
Bailey Knight,	8 20	
James Knight,	10 80	
Joseph Chandler,	2 70	
Jesse Little,	10 00	
John Pettingill,	4 95	
A. B. Little,	5 30	
	<hr/>	\$57 30

NOTE & INTEREST.

To Jesse Emerson,	267 10	
Nathan Johnson, interest,	30 00	
Non-resident highway receipts,	104 88	
	<hr/>	\$407 98

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

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ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Taxes of 1861, John E. Austin,	2 19	
" " Edmund F. McNeil,	2 19	
" " E. W. Stickney,	2 19	
" " John P. A. Perry,	2 19	
		<hr/>
		\$8 76
" 1862, William H. Wason,	1 55	
" " Lewis Brown,	1 55	
" " Heirs of E. A. Porter,	3 22	
		<hr/>
		\$6 32

TOWN OFFICERS.

To Gilman Greenough, superintending school committee,	10 75	
" collector,	22 65	
" treasurer,	10 00	
Charles Fernald, town clerk,	12 91	
E. N. Greenough, selectman,	27 75	
S. L. Knight, "	16 25	
A. B. Little, "	26 97	
		<hr/>
		\$127 28

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts, sum total,	\$4762 05
Expenditures,	4406 32
In hands of collector of 1859,	6 09
" " 1862,	139 34
Cash in hands of treasurer of 1862,	210 30
	<hr/>
	\$4762 05

State of Town Finances, March 1st, 1863. Notes payable,

Eliza Plummer, note and interest,	106 02
Joseph Noyes, " "	212 00
M. D. Greenough, " "	106 00
E. N. Greenough, " "	106 00
Nathan Johnson, " "	541 90
Wm. Noyes, " "	833 71
Enoch Bassett, " "	104 45
Jesse Page, " "	1230 00
Byron Noyes, " "	205 05

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

John H. Smith,	"	"	308 95
Wm. Brickett,	"	"	408 80
Joseph Noyes,	"	"	301 35
Ed. L. Greenough,	"	"	100 40
			————\$4564 63

DUE THE TOWN

Balance due in hands of collector, 1859	6 09
" " treasurer, 1862,	139 34
Cash in hands of treas.,	210 30
Due from the state on acc't of families of volunteers,	220 72
———— \$576 45	
Balance against the town,	\$3908 18

EDWARD N. GREENOUGH,
SAMUEL L. KNIGHT,
ALFRED B. LITTLE,

Selectmen of Atkinson.

UPON examination of the foregoing accounts as presented to us by the Selectmen, we find them correctly cast, and satisfactory vouchers corresponding with the same.

SAMUEL NOYES,
JOSEPH B. COGSWELL,
RICHARD GREENOUGH,
Auditors.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

PURSUANT to law, the Superintending School Committee respectfully presents the following Report of the Schools under his supervision during the past year.

There have been nine terms of School of nearly 12 weeks in length on an average, taught by one male and six female teachers.

There has been expended for the support of the above schools, the sum of \$409 48, which was divided equally among the several districts, by vote of the town.

One hundred different scholars have attended school, making the average amount appropriated to each scholar the sum of \$4 09.

The average wages of the several teachers employed was \$14 94 per month, inclusive of board.

For the most part our schools have been well attended, and our teachers successful in their efforts to impart instruction to the pupil under their charge. A comparative failure on the part of one or two, to preserve order, has not seemed to justify us in pronouncing their schools unsuccessful, or of specially noticing such schools as being deficient in that respect. We regard, however, good order as a thing indispensable to a perfect school.—To secure it is the first duty of the teacher, and no one ought to have charge of a school, which they have not the ability to control. But we have never yet been able to meet, with a school that corresponded with the theories of many upon this subject. It is impossible for young children to sit perfectly still for an hour's time or more, especially upon the uncomfortable seats that *adorn* so many of our school houses. And if it were possible it would certainly, in our judgment, be an act of cruelty to compel them to do so.

We are convinced that *whispering* can in a great measure be dispensed with. There exists no reason why the requirement of the teacher in this particular should not be complied with, as well as one in regard to talking aloud, or leaving the school-room at pleasure. Some of our schools, we are happy to say have, as far as we have been able to judge, been quite free from this evil; while in others we should think it might have been practical, without much opposition on the part of the teacher.

Sometimes it happens that teachers fail somewhat, in their methods of imparting instruction. This is apt to be the case with young teachers especially. Experience, we know, generally overcomes this difficulty, but it would be time well spent for beginners to visit, preparatory to teaching, the schools of experienced teachers, and thereby learn much, not only in this particular, but in many others connected with the management of a school. One thing more; we have observed the past year and years before, a habit on the part of some scholars, in one or perhaps two of our schools, which makes them appear to a manifest disadvantage. The habit to which we refer consists in the scholars "speaking up" to the teacher, with a tone and manner that comes very near, if not quite up to a plain contradiction.

Nothing makes a school appear worse, and nothing shows more plainly, the want of subordination on the part of the school, or perhaps we should say, the lack of ability on the part of the teacher to govern the school. Scholars should *always* be respectful in their conduct toward their teacher, and the bearing of the teacher such as will *command* respect from the school.

A word to parents. In accordance with the request of your committee, the several teachers, with but one exception, occupied the blank space devoted to that purpose in the Register, with remarks relating to their schools. Almost all of them consider your co-operation by visiting and otherwise to be of the greatest importance. Says one upon this subject:—

"I have been very much encouraged by the interest manifested by the parents of the District, many of whom have visited us twice and even three times, during the term. Such visits from parents cannot but have a good influence, and may do much to excite the child to greater efforts." Says another:

"The parents in this district have seemed to feel considerable interest in the School, and if they would but manifest it by visiting the school-room during the term as well as at the final examination it would not only be gratifying to the teacher, but would inspire the pupils to a greater degree of energy, and more real good thus be received."

The above quotations but express the mind of almost every teacher with whom we are acquainted. It needs no argument to demonstrate the truth of their assertions. It is an undeniable fact that a child at school will study better, behave better, and recite better under the eye of a parent than otherwise.

GILMAN GREENOUGH,
Superintending School Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

MR. MELBOURNE NOYES, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

The first term of school in this district commenced May 12, and closed July 12, a period of nine weeks. The second term commenced August 18, and closed November 18, a period of 13 1-2 weeks. Teacher, Miss Helen A. Noyes. Whole number of scholars during both terms 11, of which 4 only were present at the final examination, making it difficult to draw a comparison between the condition of the school at its commencement and its close. Classes in Grammar and Geography recited very acceptably and seemed to have made improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

MR. JOSHUA RICHARDS, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

This school was kept in two terms, one commencing June 2d, and ending August 1, and the other commencing August 25, and closing October 31. It was taught by Miss Hannah M. Taylor, a beginner in the art of teaching. Final examination well attended as usual. We judged from the recitations that the scholars had made a fair amount of progress. This school seems to have made the most marked progress of any in town during the past three years. Miss Taylor seemed very ambitious to succeed, and we think labored faithfully for the attainment of that end.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

MR. ALANSON M. SAWYER, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

The Spring term of the school in this district was taught by Miss Sarah E. Irving, of Plaistow. It began June 2d, and ended August 25th, making a school of 12 weeks in length. Judging from the record of visits, we are of the opinion that the school was well sustained by the citizens of the district. The register shows the number of visitors to have been 67, a number very large for a school in this place. The closing examination

was very well attended, and notwithstanding the excessive heat of the day, and the large number of small scholars, the school presented an orderly appearance, and the various recitations and exercises passed off with credit to the school.

The Fall term was taught by Mr. Thomas H. Wason, of this town. It was 7 weeks in length, commencing on September 29th, and ending November 7th. Mr. Wason is too well known as a successful teacher to require any commendation from us, and suffice it to say that in this instance his reputation was well sustained.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

MR. IRA HURD, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

This school was under the instruction of Miss Harriet A. Bailey, a former teacher in the district. There was but one term commencing September 8th, and continuing 12 weeks, or until November 28th. A reasonable amount of progress was exhibited at the close of the school. A large portion of the school is somewhat backward in the several branches, especially in reading. As this district has long vacations, the teacher suggests the propriety of the parents taking proper care that their children do not forget what little they may learn, during a few weeks schooling each year.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

MR. JOHN WILSON, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

This school was kept as usual in the Shop of Mr. Wilson. It commenced May 5th, and continued with the exception of a vacation of two weeks until October 4th. This school appeared very well at our different visits, and a decided amount of progress was shown at the closing examination. The school labors under the disadvantage of being without a school house.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

MR. JAMES KNIGHT, PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

This school was taught by Miss E. B. Sylvester, of West Newbury, Mass. The school was kept in one term of 15 weeks in length, beginning on the 21st of May, and closing on the 30th of August. The examination was as usual well attended by the friends of the school. The different classes appeared to good advantage, particularly a class in Geography and also a Spelling class. Judging from their pleasant faces, the pupils must have enjoyed their school very much. The teacher complains, and justly we think, of the condition of the school house.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

Number of District.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Length of school in weeks.	Whole No. scholars.	Average number of scholars.	Amount of school money.	Wages of teachers per month.	No. between 4 and 14 who have not attended school.
1	Helen A. Noyes,	21½	11	7	\$68 24	\$12 00	2
2	Hannah M. Taylor,	19	21	17	68 24	14 00	—
3	Sarah E. Irving,	12	16	12	68 24	8 00	not rep.
	Thomas H. Wason,	7	13	9		22 25	—
4	Harriet A. Bailey,	1½	19	15	68 24	18 00	2
5	Sarah R. Wilson,	20	14	9½	68 24	13 33	—
6	E. B. Sylvester,	1½	16	13½	68 24	17 00	2

